

WHAT'S *New* in the Metropolitan Police Department



*A weekly update for residents, visitors, and workers
in the District of Columbia*

Friday, January 27, 2006

MPDC LOOKING FOR MORE THAN A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN AT CAREER EXPO ON FEBRUARY 4

The MPDC has reached its fully authorized strength of 3,800 sworn members, but the Department is still actively recruiting qualified police officer candidates as part of its ongoing efforts to keep up with normal attrition. The Department's 2006 recruiting season kicks off with a Career Expo on Saturday, February 4, 2006, from 9 am to 4 pm, at the Washington Convention Center (Hall C), 801 Mount Vernon Place, NW. Recruiters will be on hand to discuss career opportunities in the MPDC with both entry-level candidates and experienced officers from other agencies who are interested in joining the MPDC through its lateral-hire program. Interested applicants can complete application forms and take the written police test on-site at the Expo. The event also offers prospective police officers and their families an inside look at the MPDC. Representatives from many of the Department's patrol and specialized enforcement units will be on hand to discuss and demonstrate their latest equipment, training and techniques. Specialized recruiting resources for female, Asian, Latino, and gay and lesbian candidates will also be available. For more details on the Career Expo, call the MPDC Recruiting Branch, (202) 727-2767 or 1 (800) 994-MPDC.

- ① Police officer candidates must have obtained at least 60 semester hours of college credits — roughly the equivalent of two years of higher education. Details at: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1230,q,538037.asp>
- ① Even if you can't make it to the Career Expo, interested applicants can still learn about career opportunities in the MPDC and apply online at: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1230,q,538009.asp>

REWARD INCREASED IN DONTÉ MANNING MURDER; UP TO \$100,000 WILL BE PAID FOR INFORMATION

Chief Ramsey this week announced that the reward offer in the March 2005 shooting death of 9-year-old Donte Manning has now been increased to up to \$100,000. At approximately 9:46 pm on Thursday, March 24, 2005, Donte Manning was the innocent victim of a shooting, as he played with friends in front of 2620 13th Street, NW. He suffered a gunshot wound to the head and died as a result of his injury about a month later, on April 26, 2005. The case is being investigated by members of the Major Crimes Unit within the MPDC's Violent Crimes Branch, in conjunction with the Department's Special Victims Unit. While the standing reward for homicide cases in DC is \$25,000, the Chief, with the support of community members, has raised the reward in the Manning case a few times over the past year, in the hope of getting someone to step forward. Most recently, the reward was up to \$80,000. It has now been increased to up to \$100,000 to anyone who provides information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for this murder. Anyone with information about this case is asked to call police at (202) 727-9099. The Department emphasizes that calls will be handled confidentially, and witness relocation services will be provided, if necessary.

- ① Read the news release and see a photo of Donte Manning at: <http://app.mpdc.dc.gov/newsroom/newsroom.asp?sid=300000>
- ① In October, Chief Ramsey announced the MPDC is offering an enhanced reward of up to \$5,000 to anyone who provides information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for any robbery in DC. The reward amount increases to up to \$10,000 for information in robberies that involve a life-threatening injury to the victim.
- ① The Department continues to support the Crime Solvers program, which offers rewards of up to \$1,000 for information that leads to the arrest and indictment of the person or persons responsible for other felony crimes. The Crime Solvers telephone number is 1 (800) 673-2777. Details at: http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1243,q,544778,mpdcNav_GID,1533.asp

DC CONTINUES CRACKDOWN ON PARKING METER JAMMERS

Over the past several months, a task force of DC government agencies – the MPDC, the District Department of Transportation and the Department of Public Works – has been cracking down on the destructive and costly problem of people who intentionally jam parking meters in the city, as a way to get out of paying for street parking. One morning this past week, members of the Second District's Focused Mission Team arrested three individuals for allegedly jamming meters in the 1700-1900 blocks of G Street, NW. All three were charged with felony destruction of property. The arrests bring to approximately 20 the number of suspected meter jammers arrested by police in recent months. Officials with DDOT, which manages the District's parking meter program, report that such illegal activity inconveniences other drivers by reducing the number of available parking spaces and by forcing subsequent drivers who park at the meter to report the malfunction. Meter jamming is also an expensive problem. In addition to the costs of repairing damaged meters, meter jamming contributes to a loss of approximately \$400,000 in yearly revenue for the city. The MPDC and its partners will continue to conduct regular enforcement operations targeting meter jammers in various parts of the District.

REGIONAL AUTO THEFT TASK FORCE REPORTS ACTIVITY FOR 2005

Recognizing that auto theft is a regional problem, several area law enforcement agencies banded together in April 2000 in an attempt to combat the problem in a coordinated and cooperative manner. The Washington Area Vehicle Enforcement (WAVE) Auto Theft Task Force includes officers from the MPDC, Montgomery and Prince George's County, Maryland State Police and the US Marshals Service. The latest statistics from WAVE indicate that, once again during 2005, the unit put a sizable dent in auto theft and related crimes. In 2005, the WAVE Unit arrested 668 suspects and recovered 581 stolen and 39 carjacked vehicles, at an estimated value of close to \$7 million. They also recovered 153 stolen tags. By way of comparison, WAVE officers arrested 521 suspects and recovered 404 stolen vehicles in 2002. Also in 2005, the WAVE Unit recovered 31 firearms, seized sizable quantities of illegal drugs (including 236 grams of cocaine), and seized and forfeited nearly \$11,000 in cash. The goals of the WAVE Unit are to identify and arrest persons operating stolen vehicles, recover stolen vehicles and take other enforcement actions to combat auto theft, including targeting unscrupulous car dealers and illegal chop shops. WAVE's efforts contributed to a nearly 16 percent reduction in stolen autos in DC between 2004 and 2005, according to preliminary data from the MPDC.

NEWS & NOTES

CCTV Cameras Activated. The MPDC will activate its Joint Operations Command Center, including the network of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras, as a routine public safety measure for President Bush's State of the Union Address on Tuesday, January 31. The network of 19 cameras will be activated at approximately 12 noon; barring unforeseen circumstances, they will be turned off shortly after the conclusion of the event. For information about the CCTV network, including the locations of the 19 permanent cameras, visit http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1238,q,541201,mpdcNav_GID,1545,mpdcNav,|31748|.asp.

Quarterly MOA Progress Report. The MPDC's latest progress report on implementation of the use-of-force Memorandum of Agreement signed with the US Justice Department, covering the fourth quarter of calendar year 2005, is now available (in PDF) at <http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,A,1246,Q,555677.asp>.

"Ask the Chief" on February 2. Chief Ramsey is scheduled to discuss public safety issues, and take phone calls and emails, from 10-11 am on Thursday, February 2, during his monthly appearance on WTOP radio.

- ① To report suspected meter jammers, call the 3-1-1 non-emergency number, your local police district or DDOT (at 673-6813).
- ① If you park at a meter that is broken, call the number on the meter and report the problem right away. However, motorists are reminded that even if a parking meter is broken, other parking restrictions (such as time limits) remain in effect, and tickets can be issued for those infractions.

DATA BOX

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|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Homicides | as of 1/27/06 |
| ◆ 2006: 10 | |
| ◆ 2005: 13 | |
| ◆ % Change: -23.1% | |
| ◆ Closure Rate: 70.0% (7 closures) | |
| Adult Arrests | week end. 1/21/06 |
| ◆ Total: 818 | |
| ◆ Weapons: 23 | |
| ◆ Robbery: 7 | |
| ◆ Auto Theft: 10 | |
| ◆ Prostitution/Sex Offenses: 22 | |
| Juvenile Activity | week end. 1/21/06 |
| ◆ Arrests: 74 | |
| ◆ Curfew Violators: 33 | |
| ◆ Truants: 47 | |
| Firearm Recoveries | as of 1/25/06 |
| ◆ January: 190 | |
| ◆ 2006 Total: 190 | |
| ◆ 2005 Total (year-end): 2,344 | |
| Traffic Fatalities | as of 1/27/06 |
| ◆ 2006: 1 | |
| ◆ 2005: 2 | |
| ◆ % Change: -50.0% | |

Information, ideas, or comments about this service? Send an e-mail to **KEVIN MORISON**, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at kevin.morison@dc.gov. Would you like to have this information e-mailed to you? Just go to our Website and register with Crimereports.com.

mpdc.dc.gov